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ILLINOIS AND MICHIGAN CANAL,  
CHANNAHON LOCKTENDER'S HOUSE  
I&M Canal National Heritage Corridor  
I&M Canal at Lift Lock No. 6  
Channahon  
Will County  
Illinois

HAER No. IL-102

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
P.O. Box 37127  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

ILLINOIS AND MICHIGAN CANAL,  
CHANNAHON LOCKTENDER'S HOUSE  
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Also, refer to  
I&M Canal, Locks and Lockhouse  
Channahon, Illinois, (HABS-IL-157)

**Location:** I&M Canal National Heritage Corridor  
I&M Canal at Lift Lock No. 6  
Channahon, Will County, Illinois

UTM: 16 E.397400 N.4586270  
Quad: Minooka

**Date of Construction:** ca. 1848

**Builder:** Unknown

**Present Owner:** State of Illinois

**Present Use:** Residence for Park Ranger (Channahon State Park)

**Significance:** One of two remaining locktender's houses on the Illinois and Michigan Canal, this two-story vernacular building was built in Lockport and transported to Lock No. 6 at Channahon. As with the other I & M locktender's houses, this one displays a number of Greek Revival elements.

**Project Information:** The Illinois and Michigan Canal was designated a National Heritage Corridor in 1984. The following year HABS/HAER embarked on an extensive inventory and documentation project of the 100 mile-long corridor. Field work for this project was concluded in 1988. Final editing of the documentation was completed in 1992.

**Historians:** Gray Fitzsimons, Timothy Whittaker, and David Kelliher, 1986; Carolyn Brucken, 1992.

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(Page 2)

Built in 1848 when the Illinois and Michigan Canal began operating, this house was constructed at Lockport and transported to the site. It is one of two remaining locktender's houses on the I & M Canal. Despite the remodeling work in 1941, the building retains much of its original appearance with clapboard siding and double-hung sash windows.

The house is a two-story, timber-frame building measuring approximately 25' x 18'. It contains a rubble limestone foundation and horizontal clapboard siding with corner boards; along the eaves is a box cornice with gable returns. The east front has three bays. The south facade has a central six-panel door, with four-light, double-hung, sash windows on either side of door. A lean-to extension to the north was built as a storeroom in 1885.

**SOURCES:**

U.S. Congress, House, Michigan and Illinois Canal, Letter from the Secretary of War, Ex. Doc. No. 79, 49th Congress, 2nd Session, 1887, 19-21.

State of Illinois, Division of Waterways, Ninth Annual Report (1925-1926).

Rathbun, Mary Yeater, The Illinois and Michigan Canal (State of Illinois, Dept. of Conservation, Division of Historic Sites, 1981).

A Pictorial History of Will County, v. 2 (Chicago: Sterling Publishers, 1976).

U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Historic American Buildings Survey, "Early [Illinois and Michigan] Canal Locks, Channahon, Illinois, Survey No. IL 157," two sheets of drawings and field notes, dated 1936, available at the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.